

CBI Session Descriptions

Community Assessment

Needs and resources are really two sides of the same coin. Without each other, they don't buy much! In order to get a comprehensive view of your community, it is important to look at both what you have and what you need. With these things understood, you can have a positive impact on the problem you wish to address. Understanding your community in this manner will also help your organization clarify where it would like to go and how to get there.

Facilitator: Beki Brandborg

Creating Community Awareness, Stakeholder Involvement & Building Community/Advisory Groups

There are literally hundreds of ways to get our organizations' messages out to the people who we want to hear and see them, and those who we want to persuade to do something important to our organization and its mission. Stakeholder involvement builds the foundation for sustainability. An advisory group of key community stakeholders affected by your project is critical to its sustainability. Community and advisory groups help to achieve your project vision by grounding it more deeply within your community, and will help to carry it forward.

Facilitator: Pat Murphy

Evaluation

Evaluation is a powerful strategy that provides ongoing, systematic information to strengthen projects and programs and to assess the extent to which they have created change. It encourages an atmosphere of participation, reflection, dialogue, and teaching and learning. Evaluation is a driving force for developing and adopting sound program strategies, improving existing programs, building the capacity of the people involved, and demonstrating the results of investments in time and other resources. This session walks us through the steps in the evaluation process and provides helpful planning tools for mapping out the sequence of events for building sound programs and projects and assessing their effectiveness.

Facilitator: Maxine Jacobson

Strategic Community Planning

Every organization has a dream of what they want to accomplish. But the most successful individuals -- and community organizations -- take that dream and find a way to make it happen. Through a process called VMOSA you will learn how to make the dream a reality. This strategic planning process helps community groups define their dream, set their goals, define ways to meet those goals, and finally develop practical ways to bring about the needed changes they seek.

Facilitator: LaNette Diaz

Communication and Leadership Styles: Keys to Successful Collaboration

Diversity of leadership styles is key to successful collaborative projects. Making sure all voices are heard and valued is essential to a project that has buy-in from the community. This workshop will explore effective communication skills through discussion and self discovery. Participants will understand and experience four leadership styles and learn effective strategies to work with all types of people. The workshop focuses on the value of diverse styles and dispels the myths surrounding the thoughts and attitudes of varying leadership styles. Reflective questions will allow members the opportunity to have a frank discussion concerning the stereotyping of extraverts and introverts.

Facilitator: Pat Murphy

Interviewing the Community

An interview is a conversation with a purpose. Interviews can be formally structured, loosely structured, or not structured at all. The style of interviewing you will adopt will depend on the kind of result you're looking for. In this session learn about all the different purposes of interviews. Etiquette of interviewing and walk away with understanding who you want to interview, why and what questions you need to ask.

Facilitator: LaNette Diaz

Learning Conversations

Imagine having a conversation that led to deep understanding, where participants are fully engaged and information and insights build on each other. "Aha!" moments occur as assumptions are explored and either confirmed or found to be invalid. This is a learning conversation where the primary purpose of the communication is to learn about self, others, and ways to build better, more informed solutions for addressing interpersonal, organizational, and community change. This session presents the underlying concepts of learning conversations, how to prepare for a learning conversation with a colleague, friend, or supervisor, and five steps for a successful outcome.

Facilitator: Maxine Jacobson

Fundraising

This will be an introduction to fundraising practices covering the importance of planning and some research, and then the handful of core things that best practices tell us to do -- and not do! We'll dispel fundraising myths together, and cover what can make raising money for our projects or organizations easy, fun, and do-able. While we're at it, we'll cover how to find out what works well in your community to ensure it's a good idea before we find out the hard way that it's not a good fit. There will be plenty of opportunities to ask questions! **Facilitator: Beki Brandborg**